

IN THE CLAIMS

Prior to examination, please enter the following amendments to the claims:

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Claims 1-6 (canceled).

7. (Currently Amended) ~~Mono-axially oriented draw~~ Draw tape made by a method comprising ~~the steps of~~:
- forming a solid sheet of thermoplastic material from molten thermoplastic material;
- producing a set of draw tape feeds from the solid sheet of thermoplastic material; and
- stretching and annealing the set of draw tape feeds to orient molecules within the set of draw tape feeds such that tensile strength of each draw tape feed is greater in a first direction than in a second direction which is substantially perpendicular to the first direction.
8. (Currently Amended) The ~~mono-axially oriented draw~~ tape of Claim 7 wherein ~~the step of~~ stretching and annealing includes ~~the step of~~:
- passing the set of draw tape feeds around a series of rotating temperature-controlled rollers to stretch and anneal the set of draw tape feeds, wherein the series of rotating temperature-controlled rollers includes a first roller which is configured to rotate at a first rate and have a first temperature, and a second roller which is configured to rotate at a second rate that is different than the first rate and have a second temperature that is different than the first temperature.

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9. (Currently Amended) The ~~mono-axially oriented~~ draw tape of Claim 7 wherein ~~the step of~~ producing the set of draw tape feeds includes ~~the step of~~:

cutting the solid sheet of thermoplastic material along the first direction to produce, as the set of draw tape feeds, separate feeds of draw tape.

10. (Currently Amended) The ~~mono-axially oriented~~ draw tape of Claim 9 8 wherein the method further comprises ~~the step of~~:

after ~~the step of~~ stretching and annealing, simultaneously winding the separate feeds of draw tape onto respective hubs in order to simultaneously form multiple rolls of draw tape.

11. (Currently Amended) The ~~mono-axially oriented~~ draw tape of Claim 7 wherein the molten thermoplastic material includes molten linear low-density polyethylene, and wherein ~~the step of~~ forming the solid sheet of thermoplastic material includes ~~the step of~~:

cooling the molten linear low-density polyethylene in a bath in order to form, as the solid sheet of thermoplastic material, a single solid layer of linear low-density polyethylene.

12. (Currently Amended) The ~~mono-axially oriented~~ draw tape of Claim 11 wherein ~~the step of~~ forming the solid sheet of thermoplastic material further includes ~~the step of~~:

prior to ~~the step of~~ cooling, extruding the molten linear low-density polyethylene through a die that defines an elongated opening.

Claims 13-24 (canceled).

- 5 -

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25. (New) The draw tape of Claim 7 wherein stretching and annealing the set of draw tape feeds substantially strengthens each draw tape feed in at least one direction to form a set of strengthened draw tape feeds.
  26. (New) The draw tape of Claim 7 wherein stretching and annealing the set of draw tape feeds substantially strengthens each draw tape feed in a single direction to form a set of mono-axially oriented draw tape feeds.
  27. (New) The draw tape of Claim 26 wherein stretching and annealing the set of draw tape feeds substantially strengthens each draw tape feed in the first direction to form the set of mono-axially oriented draw tape feeds.
  28. (New) The draw tape of Claim 7 wherein (i) forming the solid sheet of thermoplastic material from the molten thermoplastic material, (ii) producing the set of draw tape feeds from the solid sheet of thermoplastic material, and (iii) stretching and annealing the set of draw tape feeds to orient the molecules within the set of draw tape feeds, occur in a contiguous manner to provide extended lengths of the draw tape feeds.
  29. (New) The draw tape of Claim 28, further comprising:  
after stretching and annealing, simultaneously winding each draw tape feed onto a respective hub in order to simultaneously form multiple rolls of draw tape; wherein simultaneously winding occurs contiguously with forming, producing, and stretching and annealing, to alleviate necessity for splicing.
  30. (New) The draw tape of Claim 28 wherein stretching and annealing the set of draw tape feeds substantially strengthens each draw tape feed in at least one direction to form a set of strengthened draw tape feeds.

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31. (New) The draw tape of Claim 28 wherein stretching and annealing the set of draw tape feeds substantially strengthens each draw tape feed in the first direction to form a set of mono-axially oriented draw tape feeds.
32. (New) Draw tape made by a method comprising:  
forming a sheet of thermoplastic material from molten thermoplastic material;  
stretching the sheet of thermoplastic material to form strengthened thermoplastic material; and  
producing a set of draw tape feeds from the strengthened thermoplastic material; where forming, stretching and producing occur in a contiguous manner to provide extended lengths of the draw tape feeds.
33. (New) The draw tape of Claim 32, further comprising:  
after producing the set of draw tape feeds, simultaneously winding each draw tape feed onto a respective hub in order to simultaneously form multiple rolls of draw tape; wherein simultaneously winding occurs contiguously with forming, stretching, and producing, to alleviate necessity for splicing.
34. (New) The draw tape of Claim 32 wherein stretching the sheet of thermoplastic material substantially strengthens each draw tape feed in at least one direction to form strengthened draw tape feeds.
35. (New) The draw tape of Claim 32 wherein stretching the sheet of thermoplastic material substantially strengthens each draw tape feed in a single direction to form a set of mono-axially oriented draw tape feeds.

36. (New) The draw tape of Claim 32 wherein stretching occurs as portions of the sheet pass through a roller assembly.

37. (New) The draw tape of Claim 32 wherein stretching occurs as portions of the sheet expand from a blown-film source.

38. (New) The draw tape of Claim 37 wherein stretching occurs as portions of the sheet pass from a single-layer blown-film source.

39. (New) The draw tape of Claim 37 wherein stretching occurs as portions of the sheet pass from a multi-layer blown-film source.

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